

TOWN OF CHESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 20, 2016
Minutes

PRESENT: John DeBenedetti; Tom Bock; William Lindsay; Heather Chase; Arne Jonynas; David Pisha

VISITORS: Julie Hance; Shawn Cunningham; Edward Huse; Jack Cable; Tom Hildreth; Malcolm Summers; Nancy Rugg; Donna Allen; Dan Cote; Alison DesLauriers; Frank Kelly

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman DeBenedetti.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

1. APPROVE MINUTES:

January 6, 2016:

A motion was made by William Lindsay to approve the January 6, 2016 minutes of the Chester Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Tom Bock. The motion passed.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Jack Cable, an auditor for the Town of Chester stated that they are working on auditing the end of 2015 and preparing the Town Report. Mr. Cable stated that Mrs. Jewett is not renewing her term as auditor. He stated that the auditors meet 4 times per year to review the bank statements.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

Solar Farm: David stated that Cil has put together the spreadsheet showing the savings produced by the Solar Farm. The past 2 month period shows a savings of approximately \$5,000. He further stated that rent will be paid on February 28 which is the one year anniversary of the contract signing. The amount of rent is \$6,000.00. David Pisha further noted that the savings are less in the winter months but there will be spikes in the summer months. William Lindsay stated that he would like each Board member to have a copy of the contract. Heather Chase questioned how the allocation is determined. David Pisha noted that it falls out to the highest users.

Yosemite Fire House: Arne Jonynas questioned if the equipment is still in the Fire House and what is happening. David Pisha stated that the equipment is still in the building but he is not sure of the status. Arne Jonynas questioned the status of the insurance. David Pisha stated that he will confirm with Bill Dakin and the Historical Society regarding the status. Jack Cable stated that the Historical Society will be meeting in February.

David Pisha stated that the Town of Chester now owns the O'Neil property. The closing took place this morning. He stated that Naomi Johnson will be submitting the ACT 250 application this afternoon or tomorrow. David Pisha stated that Drew's has offered to convey to the town their portion of the access road. Jim Carroll endorses the acquisition of this land. Discussion ensued. David Pisha will present a complete package at the next meeting.

Thompson Bridge: David Pisha stated that he has spoken with the State of Vermont and answered the right of way question.

Andover contribution: David Pisha noted that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Andover.

Accrual method: David Pisha stated that Ron Smith has stated that he would prefer accrual method and will come meet with the Town of Chester. David Pisha stated that Ron Smith confirmed that the fiscal year of the town does not need to change.

Water/Sewer Budgets: Julie Hance will research how the water and sewer budgets are approved.

Petitions: John DeBenedetti stated that he would like to make sure that the town follows through with adopting a policy regarding petitions.

Tom Hildreth questioned the status of Mountain View storm drain system. Julie Hance will be applying for a grant in March.

4. CHESTER ROTARY, FALL FESTIVAL; MALCOLM SUMMERS:

Malcolm Summers discussed the Fall Festival of 2015 and its success. He stated that the dates are September 17 and 18. They want to close off Common Street on the 17th and 18th as well. The 2 spaces in front of Tory Spater's building will be used for handicap parking. Malcolm Summers requested that the ice cream truck be placed on Common Street from Friday night through Sunday afternoon. This would free up space on the Green for other vendors. Malcolm Summers stated that they are also requesting use of the Academy Building lawn which will hold children's activities and the music bands. He further stated that there is insurance through the Rotary.

A motion was made by Tom Bock to authorize the Chester Rotary to use The Green from Friday, September 16 at 3:00 p.m. through Sunday, September 18 at 5:00 p.m.; The Common closed during these days, handicap spaces on School Street, restricted parking on both sides of Route 11, and the ice cream truck on the common. Seconded by Heather Chase. The motion passed.

The Selectboard stated that the use of the Academy Building lawn would need to be approved by the Historical Society since they lease the building and land. David Pisha stated that he will review the lease.

5. CHESTER 250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

Frank Kelley and Tom Hildreth were present to discuss the Chester 250th Anniversary celebration. Tom Hildreth stated that they had their first meeting with a turnout of 15 people. He stated that there are now 12 committee members.

Frank Kelley stated that discussion related to a community celebration around the July date; possible parade; food and a food centered activities; tours around town; several activities. A suggestion was made for a gala celebration event on one evening. Frank Kelley stated that these committees will begin working on their own to develop their plans. The committee suggested that instead of a one-time event, it should be spread out over several weekends. Discussion ensued. Frank Kelley stated that there will be a meeting on January 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. John DeBenedetti asked for Julie Hance to warn that meeting for the Selectboard's attendance.

6. CAPITAL & BOND PLANS FINAL VERSION:

David Pisha stated that there are \$330,000 transferring into the Capital Plan which will then split between the Capital Plan and the Bond Plan. John DeBenedetti questioned the transfer-in from the General Fund in the amount of \$332,000. David Pisha explained the transfers in from public works and general fund. Heather Chase stated that she likes the plans broken out better. William Lindsay stated that he would like to make sure that the list of roads being paved is made available.

7. SIGN TOWN WARNING:

John DeBenedetti read the Town Warning as drafted. A suggestion was made to change the wording on the Bond Plan and the Capital Plan to match the Warning and state Capital Budget Reserve Fund.

A motion was made by William Lindsay to sign the Town Warning. Seconded by Arne Jonynas. The motion passed.

8. SIGN BOND DOCUMENTS:

A motion was made by William Lindsay to accept the Resolution Certificate in the amount of \$269,900 for the Series One Bond. Seconded by Tom Bock. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to accept the Resolution Certificate for the paving bond. Seconded by Arne Jonynas. The motion passed.

9. NEW BUSINESS/NEXT AGENDA:

Heather Chase stated that she would like to make sure that the Purchasing Policy and Conflict of Interest Policies be on the agenda in February. David Pisha stated that

Katharine Otto will be present at the next meeting. John DeBenedetti requested that there be an Executive Session at the next meeting for a 6 month review of the Town Manager. William Lindsay requested the status of the Chester Development Funds investment.

10. ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Heather Chase to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Bock. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Julie Hance
Secretary of the Select Board

Heather Chase
Clerk of the Select Board

The SAPA-TV recording of this meeting is hereby made a part of the permanent minute record of this meeting.